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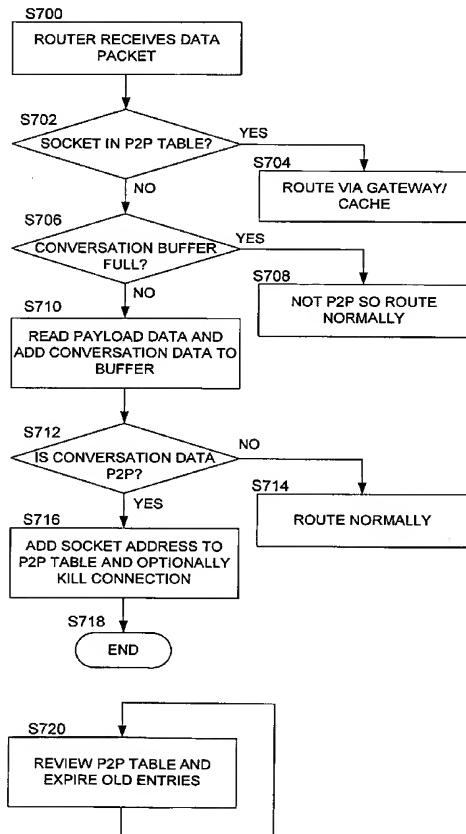
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(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR ROUTING IN A NETWORK



(57) **Abstract:** This invention generally relates to methods and apparatus for routing data in networks, in particular packet data routing in TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol). Applications of the invention include routing of peer-to-peer (P2P) network data. A method of controlling traffic on a data network, said traffic comprising payload data and associated signalling data, the method comprising reading a portion of said payload data for a communications session between a first entity and a second entity communicating over said network; determining whether said portion of payload data identifies a type of traffic to be controlled; storing, responsive to said determining, signalling data associated with said portion of payload data; reading said signalling data to identify an attempt to begin a further communications session of said identified traffic type or to resume said communications session; and controlling traffic of said further or resumed communications session responsive to said identification.



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